

Statement

Corrina's Homeless and Vulnerable Project
February 2017

From 1 March 2017 the support for homeless and vulnerable people provided by Corrina's Homeless and Vulnerable Project (CHVP) will be relocated. The change in service provision has been implemented in consultation with and the support of local stakeholders from the public, private and voluntary sector with an interest in homelessness provision in the Harrogate District.

Thanks to generous donations and the support of individuals and businesses and the vision and mission of the founders CHVP has been running for three years as a volunteer-led full time commitment with no salaried position. Due to health and family-related personal reasons the Directors of CHVP now need to step back from the organisation at the end of February. St Peter's Church in Harrogate has stepped in to pick up the resulting loss in leadership capacity and gap in service provision and will also host the existing team of CHVP volunteers.

The weekly Sunday hot cooked meal service will continue and from March 2017 the collection, storage and distribution of emergency food parcels throughout the week will be managed from St Peter's Church. There will continue to be an open referral systems for these services.

Donations of food and funds and support from existing and new individual and business contacts will continue to be welcomed. Donations of dried foods can already be dropped off in the food basket at St Peter's Church.

Corrina Young, Founder and Director of Corrina's Homeless and Vulnerable Projects says:

"Over the last three years since the project began we have served 12,120 hot meals and issued 1965 emergency food parcels to homeless and vulnerable people thanks to the tremendous support we have received from ordinary members of the public and local businesses, sponsors and funders. It has been a challenging but rewarding experience and we've learned so much about the hidden needs in our apparently prosperous town and the goodwill and kindness of people who want to help. For personal family and health reasons I'm no longer able to be so actively involved, but I'm delighted that we've been able to ensure that the services we've developed will be able to continue via a strong local partnership led by St Peter's Church".

The Revd Alan Garrow, of St Peter's Church says:

At St Peter's Church we believe in feeding hungry people - recognising that we hunger for respect, belonging and companionship as much as for food. For the past fifteen years St Peter's has offered a hot breakfast every day, Monday to Saturday, and food parcels every evening. With help from Corinna's supporters and volunteers we look forward to expanding what we offer - especially in the provision of hot lunches on Sundays.

Karen Weaver, Chief Executive of Harrogate & Ripon CVS says:

It has been most valuable to work with and support Corrina and her team since she launched her project back in February 2014. Corrina identified a very real need to provide free and informal support to some of the most vulnerable people in our community and set out about making that happen. She harnessed the power of social media and was prepared to try something new and innovative, which has really made a difference to the lives of many people, both clients and volunteers. Setting up a new voluntary organisation is always a rollercoaster ride, with unexpected bumps along the way, and of course volunteers themselves can find themselves in changed

circumstances and may need to adjust their roles. The new arrangements we have been able to help put in place will ensure that this valuable support continues to be provided and that there is a very real legacy to this ground-breaking service developed by Corrina and friends”

Key contacts:

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